(e) The freight earnings upto the first quarter of the financial year *i.e.* upto June, 2006 (approximate) have increased by 14.08% as compared to the corresponding period of the previous financial year (approximate).

Feasibility report on new link from Nagapattinam to Tithruthuraipundi

2379. SHRIMIATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sourthern Railway had sent a feasibility report on the new links from Nagapattinum to Tithruthuraipundi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is considering to extend the said new railway line up to Velankanni; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The work of connectivity to Velankanni from Nagapattinam has already been taken up as part of Thanjavur-Tiruvarur-Nagore gauge conversion project.

Doubling of Chengalpattu-Villupuram rail line

2380. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways had cleared doubling of the Chengalputtu-Villupuram section;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the abvoe said proposal is now with the Planning Commission;

(c) if so, the present status of the said proposal;

(d) whether the Railways is also considering to double the Chengalpattu-Tuticorin section in view of increasing passenger traffic; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Planning Commission has already appraised the proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Survey in this regard has been completed recently. Further decision would be taken based on the results of the survey once the same are finalised.

Upgradation of stations

†2381. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to develop Delhi, New Delhi and Hazart Nizamuddin Railway Stations as the world class, attractive and unique railway stations matching with the international standards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that four new Railway terminals have also been decided to be built based on the future needs keeping in view the heavy rush of passengers at the above three railway stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A proposal to develop New Delhi Railway Station as world class station is in preliminary stage.

(b) and (c) In order to cater to the future requirements of passenger traffic in Delhi area, the work of new terminal at Anand Vihar is sanctioned and is in progress. Also, it is proposed to build a new terminal at Brijwasan.

Plan to take reservation charges in compartments

†2382. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation charges are taken by Railways from wait-listed passengers;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi